Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1(Currently amended). A method for introducing a mutation into a nucleotide sequence of a target nucleic acid, the method comprising the steps of:

(1) preparing a DNA having an inverted repeat sequence, wherein the ~~nucleotide sequence of the DNA having an~~ inverted repeat sequence ~~is homologous to~~ comprises a sense strand sequence and a antisense strand sequence of a target nucleic acid and contains a mutation to be introduced into the target nucleic acid, wherein the sense strand sequence and the antisense strand sequence are arranged in tandem, and the mutation to be introduced into the target nucleic acid is located within the sense strand sequence and the antisense strand sequence in the inverted repeat sequence; and

(2) transferring the DNA having an inverted repeat sequence into a cell.

2(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the DNA having an inverted repeat sequence has a binding motif sequence for a protein having a nuclear transport signal.

3(Original). The method according to claim 2, wherein the binding motif sequence for a protein having a nuclear transport signal is a binding motif sequence for a transcription factor.

4(Currently amended). The method according to claim 1, wherein the DNA having an inverted repeat sequence has a modified nucleotide, wherein the modified nucleotide is selected from the group consisting of a methylated ribonucleotide, a sulfurized deoxyribonucleotide and an LNA.

5(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the DNA having an inverted repeat sequence is a double-stranded DNA.

6(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the DNA having an inverted repeat sequence is a single-stranded DNA.

7(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the target nucleic acid is a nucleic acid located in cytoplasm.

8(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the target nucleic acid is a nucleic acid located in nucleus.

9(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of mutations are simultaneously introduced into the target nucleic acid.

10(Original). The method according to claim 1, wherein the mutation to be introduced into the target nucleic acid is substitution, deletion and/or insertion of a nucleotide.

Claims 11-16 (Cancelled).